

## EMPLOYEE RIGHTS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to cosponsor the Employee Rights Act, introduced by Chairman TOM PRICE, which establishes protections for American workers—to not join a union; to have a secret ballot; and, if they choose to join a union, to know how their dues are being spent. This legislation is critical to empowering American workers and shielding them from unfair treatment in the workplace.

South Carolina is a staunch defender of right-to-work protections, even when threatened by the National Labor Relations Board. For years, the NLRB has threatened to destroy jobs, particularly in the Charleston community. It has invaded employee privacy and encroached upon their rights.

I am grateful for Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, Senator TIM SCOTT, Governor Nikki Haley, and South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson for their leadership in protecting our State's right-to-work laws.

Right-to-work States like South Carolina have seen firsthand that job creation and economic growth come from expanded freedoms. We need to expand commonsense reforms like those in the Employee Rights Act to protect American workers and create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President, by his actions, never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

## RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at noon.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of our ancestors, thank You for giving us another day.

We pray You, O God, to be with the Members of this House today and as they return to their home districts during the August recess. Give them sound judgment and make them as practical as the American people who sent them here as their Representatives.

Help them to withstand open criticism when they know what is right be-

fore You and conscience. Often, they are characterized by half-truths and attributed motives that are far beneath them. Uphold them at such times with personal integrity and compassion for those most in need.

Having called them to serve others to the best of their abilities, lift them even higher by Your grace and power to live and work for Your greater honor and glory, both this day and throughout the remainder of the summer.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HIGGINS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

## RECOGNIZING PLYMOUTH FIRE CHIEF RICHARD KLINE

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Plymouth Fire Chief Richard Kline, who has announced that he will be retiring at the end of this year.

For over 20 years, Chief Kline has diligently served as the head of the Plymouth Fire Department during a period of tremendous growth and change.

Chief Kline has led the way when it comes to bringing firefighting into the 21st century by embracing new technology and equipment techniques not only locally, but also being involved at the national level through education and speaking engagements.

He also serves as chair of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association Safety and Health Committee where his influence is felt throughout the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chief Kline for his service, for his dedication in leading our first responders, and keeping our community safe.

I know the Plymouth community will miss him, but Chief Kline's steadfast leadership leaves Plymouth on a firm foundation for the future.

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday marked the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Since its enactment, the ADA has been a beacon of hope for millions of people with disabilities, both throughout the United States and around the world.

Many passionate advocates and champions fought for the rights and protections enshrined in this law. Thanks to their pioneering efforts, people with disabilities can participate in more aspects of society than ever before. Where barriers exist, so, too, do the opportunities to remove them, thanks to the protections and accommodations afforded under the ADA.

We have come far since the passage of the ADA, but we still have much more work ahead. As we commemorate the silver anniversary of the ADA, I hope everyone will join me in celebrating the strides we have made, while also committing our efforts to achieving the full equality and opportunity on which the ADA and our country were founded.

## REMEMBERING TERRY STAMBAUGH

(Mr. WOMACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to remember the life of Terry Stambaugh of Harrison, Arkansas.

Terry died this week when his car was struck head on by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed, fleeing from police. It is heartbreaking to see the life of a community servant taken